

SHELDON TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT

5 Fire Station Lane
Sheldon, SC 29941

BOARD MEETING

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 19,2026

REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gregory Gilbert, Robert Smalls, Adrain Scott, Abraham Kelly George Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sheri Phillips (Out of Town), Rudy Glover (Out ill)

STAFF PRESENT: Chief Buddy Jones, Asst. Chief Dale Glass

GUESTS: None

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER by Chairman Gregory Gilbert at 6:32 p.m.

AGENDA: All in favor of proceeding with the Agenda as outlined. **MOTION** made by Robert Smalls to proceed with agenda as outlined. **SECOND** by George Williams. **MOTION CARRIED.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION: NO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NO COMMENTS.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 18, 2025 BOARD MEETING. BOARD MEMBERS REVIEWED minutes from meeting of December 18, 2025. **MOTION** made by George Williams to approve minutes of December 18, 2025. **SECOND** by Robert Smalls. **MOTION CARRIED.**

DISCUSSION

Old Business:

Parking Lot and Driveway Paving Project: This project is still on hold. Waiting to hear from the County

Audit: The audit has been reviewed by the members and there were no questions.

New Business:

2026/2027 Budget - Members received a Draft Budget Package. Please review page one, Budget Comparison. There is a \$345,000 increase over last year, which is mostly in payroll. Sheldon Fire needs to bring up the base pay. The Department is losing too many Firefighters due to low salaries. Usual after they have been trained they are gone. If Sheldon receives a 7% increase in the mil value, it will bring it to \$55,000. It would be a 3.8 mil increase to the taxpayer. I am not sure if Councilman Dawson with allow this or even if the State will. Sheldon is waiting on the figures from the County before the department can finalize figures. According to the CPA, in the last nine years, this was our mil values: 2018 up 2.47; 2019 down 1.14; 2020 up 2.26; 2021 down .5; 2022 up 1.2; 2023 up 2.1; 2024 down 2.1; 2025 stated level; 2026 down .5. Sheldon does not have a history of mil increases. If you own \$100,000 home tax per mil will go up \$16. Budget presentation will be April 20th so the members can go over the budget and approve it at the next meeting on April 16th. This year the Department is concentrating on the payroll to bring it up. Next year the Department will be buying a new Engine and Tanker.

V-Safe Grant: The Department has applied for the V-Safe Grant to purchase 4 sets of gear. It will be approximately \$15,000.

Helmets - The Department needs to purchase 15 new helmets and 15 new boots. \$14,226.60 of the Fund balance of \$194,545 will be used leaving a balance of \$182,283.40; The Fund balance that the County is holding is \$1,020,155. If the Board approves this purchase the department can use what is in the Departments checking account with out going through 3 readings for council approval. **MOTION** made by George Williams to approve the purchase of the new helmets and boots for \$14,226.60. **SECOND** by Abraham Kelly. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Engine 41 - Palmetto Fire rebuilt the engine on it, and their warranty was only 90 days. The truck was not running right so we took in it to The County Shed and they suggested we take it to International Truck because it had a major issue. After inspection, International discovered major issues with the motor. The Tech and Foreman said upon inspection they found issues; they removed the valve covers and inspected the rockers, valves and springs. They were very worn, and the injectors were scorned, removed oil pan and they found signs of the lobes on the cams were excessively worn and burnt; sorned in the cylinder heads, removed the heads and it was bad; found abnormal burning deposits; 2 pistons were installed in reverse of the others, and many more issues. They also noted that is was caused by technician workmanship by whoever worked on the head last. They suggested to replace the motor or rebuild it. It is less expensive to replace the motor. They quoted \$35,329.09 Unlimited mileage / 1 year warranty.

Treasurer's Report - Board members received a copy of the Treasurer Report. Total Budget this year is \$1,972,242 . SFD has drawn \$1,400,000 to date with \$572,242, left to draw. SFD is on average is spending \$36,000 per week and have \$40,000 funds available per week. Current checkbook balance is \$341,668. There is currently \$194,545 cash on hand funds available. **MOTION WAS MADE** by George Williams to approved the treasury report. **SECOND** by Rudy Glover. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Vehicle Maintenance: Up to Date

Fire Marshall Inspections: Up to Date

Training Report: Training is up to date.

Call Summary: Calls through January 2026; 65% of those are Medical Calls.

ADJOURNMENT: **MOTION** to adjourn meeting by George Williams. **SECOND** by Rudy Glover. **MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING. APPROVED.**

MEETING ADJOURNED by Gregory Gilbert at 7:04 p.m.

MEETING APPROVED: April 16, 2026